

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 17410 031022Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SIL-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 OPIC-03 AID-05  
/049 W  
-----124544 040824Z /13

R 030906Z NOV 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7392  
INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EGEN, ASEAN, E  
SUBJECT: ASEAN TRADE FAIR AND ASEAN SOLIDARITY

REF: (A) MANILA 16932, (B) SINGAPORE 4733 (NOTAL)

1. GOP ASEAN TRADE FAIR SECRETARIAT CHAIRED ORGANIZATIONAL MEETI R WITH OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES ON OCTOBER 27 AND 28 IN MANILA, AND ENCOUNTERED HEAVY OPPPOSITION TO ITS CONCEPT OF THE FAIR EMPHASIZING THE REGIONAL OR ASEAN NATURE THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF INDUSTRY CLUBS. OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES, LED BY MALAYSIA, FELT THAT THIS WOULD GIVE PHILIPPINE INDUSTRIES AND INDIVIDUAL FIRMS AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE SINCE THEY WOULD HAVE NO TRANSPORT PROBLEM AND THUS WOULD TEND TO DOMINATE THE FAIR. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ASEAN PRINCIPLES OF CONSENSUS AND SOLIDARITY, GOP SECRETARIAT BOWED TO THE INEVITABLE AND ACCEPTED A REVISED CONCEPT FEATURING INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL PAVILLIONS, BUT ALSO INCLUDING SOME ROOM FOR THE INDUSTRY CLUBS.

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2. OTHER ASEAN DELEGATIONS WERE ALSO DISTURBED OVER THE LONG GOP LIST OF BANNED IMPORT ITEMS (ALMOST ALL CONSUMER GOODS ARE BANNED IN THE PHILIPPINES). THE GOP CUSTOMS REPRESENTATIVE MAINTAINED THAT ALL EXHIBIT GOODS HAD TO ENTER UNDER BOND AND MUST BE REMOVED AFTER THE FAIR, AND THAT THE EXHIBITING GOVERNMENT HQST GIVE A GUARANTEE TO THAT

EFFECT. ONE ASEAN COMMERCIAL ATTACHE ASKED WHY HE COULD NOT "DISPOSE" OF HIS NATIONAL BEER WHICH HE PLANNED TO BRING IN.

3. GOP SECRETARIAT IS NOW SEIZED WITH PROBLEM OF MEETING DESIRE OF OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES TO DISPOSE OF EXHIBIT GOODS LOCALLY RATHER THAN UNDERTAKE EXPENSE OF SHIPPING THEM BACK. SINGAPORE AND THAI COMATTS HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY DO NOT BELIEVE TRADE FAIR HAS ANY POTENTIAL FOR SALES, BUT THEIR GOVERNMENTS (AS WELL AS THE OTHER TWO), FELT THEY HAD TO "GO ALONG" WITH PHILIPPINE DESIRE FOR A FAIR.

4. SINGAPORE COMATT ALSO TOLD US THAT THE GOS HAS BUDGETED FOR ITS PAVILLION WHICH IT WILL CONSTRUCT, BUT THE ACTUAL EXHIBIT ITSELF WILL BE MOUNTED BY THE SINGAPORE MANUFAC-

TURERS ASSOCIATION. THE GOS DELEGATION TO THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING CONSISTED OF YOONG JUN FAH AND SIM CHENG HUAT FROM THE TRADE FAIRS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, AND ALSO INCLUDED GOPINATH PILLAI OF THE SINGAPORE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION. YOONG JUN FAH HAS JUST RETURNED FROM WASHINGTON WHERE HE WAS COMMERCIAL ATTACHE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE FAIRS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977MANILA17410  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 MANILA 16932, 77 SINGAPORE 4733  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ASEAN TRADE FAIR AND ASEAN SOLIDARITY  
**TAGS:** EGEN, RP, ASEAN  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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